



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 029471-0146

Applicant: Hidehiko OKADA
Title: GUI CONTROL METHOD AND APPARATUS AND
RECORDING MEDIUM
Application No.: 09/758,549
Filing Date: January 12, 2001
Examiner: L. V. Nguyen
Art Unit: 2174

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OCT 06 2004

Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

10/04/2004 SDENBQB1 00000025 09758549

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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(d), before payment of the issue fee.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

A translation of a portion of a Japanese Office Action that issued September 7, 2004 with respect to a counterpart Japanese patent application is provided below.

"Reason

The inventions related to the following claims of the present application could have been easily invented by a person with ordinary knowledge of technology in the field to which the invention belongs based on the inventions recited in the publications below, which had been distributed in Japan or abroad prior to the application, and therefore cannot receive a patent according to the stipulations of Article 29, Paragraph 2 of the Japan Patent Law.

Note

(For a list of the cited literature, see the List of Cited Literature)

1. Cited Literature 1 in relation to Claims 1 and 7

The "guide part (5)" that displays the manipulation item as described in Cited Literature 1 corresponds to the "menu" of the invention related to Claim 1. Moreover, the "property" part in Fig. 3 of Cited Literature 1 has been displayed in reverse, and it is self-evident to a person skilled in the art that the "GUI part that should be manipulated next" is highlighted and displayed.

Furthermore, the manipulation order of software application in use (in the example in Cited Literature 1, "'Windows 95' produced by Microsoft") can be demonstrated without modifying the aforementioned software, and we find that a person skilled in the art could easily invent the invention related to Claim 1 based on the invention described in Cited Literature 1.

Moreover, the same could be said about the invention related to Claim 7.

At the current time, no reasons for rejection have been discovered regarding inventions related to claims other than claims indicated in this Notification of Reasons for Rejection. If new reasons for rejection are discovered, notification of the reasons for rejection will be given.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication H10-240110."

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Applicant's statements regarding the Japanese Office Action are based on a partial translation that Applicant's representative obtained. These statements should in no way be considered as an agreement by Applicant with, or an admission of, what is asserted in the Japanese Office Action.

STATEMENT

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 CFR §1.704(d) that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.


FEE

A fee in connection with submission of an information disclosure statement under 37 CFR §1.97(d) in the amount of \$180.00 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.17(p) is attached.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

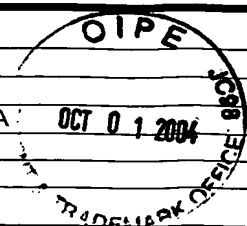
Date OCTOBER 1, 2004

By 

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: October 1, 2004 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
Sheet 1 of 1		Application Number 09/758,549 Filing Date 01/12/2001 First Named Inventor Hidehiko OKADA Group Art Unit 2174 Examiner Name L. V. Nguyen Attorney Docket Number 029471-0146	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A1	JP	10-240110		09/11/1998			ABS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.